



August 5, 2020

Mr. Rick Baxter  
Program Manager  
Bureau of Reclamation, Provo Area Office  
302 East Lakeview Parkway  
Provo, UT 84606

Subject: Letter of Support for the Lake Powell Pipeline Project as defined in the current Draft Environmental Impact Statement

Dear Mr. Baxter,

For the past two decades, I have worked as a private consultant and a public servant in the water and wastewater industry. For fifteen of those twenty years I have worked almost exclusively in southern Utah. I have dedicated my professional life to the planning, design, and construction management of municipal water, wastewater, and storm water projects in Utah, Nevada, and Arizona. I understand the importance of planning for and appropriately managing the impacts of water resource development projects.

I am writing to you in support of the Lake Powell Pipeline (LPP) because it clearly demonstrates the type of proactive engineering and environmental planning required to deliver needed water supplies to southwestern Utah. In addition to the technical aspects of developing an alternative water supply, the draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) has identified all of the potential cultural, environmental and social challenges associated with this project.

As a consultant to municipalities and water districts I had the opportunity to work on a full spectrum of projects from new wells and surface water resource development to one of the largest wastewater reuse project in the state of Utah at the St. George Water Reclamation Facility. Now, as the manager of a wastewater district tasked with overseeing the bulk of eastern Washington County, I oversee the collection, pumping, treatment, reuse, financial planning, and environmental mitigation of water resource recovery projects. I can recognize the consistent effort and the iterative refinement required in undertaking a challenging project.

As a utility provider in southern Utah, I witness on a daily basis the accelerating pace of growth in this part of the State. Much of the growth in Washington County will be taking place within the Ash Creek Special Service District's boundaries. We will be treating the wastewater from many of the homes that will be built in the decades to come.

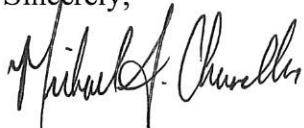
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The entire state of Utah faces the reality of water shortage as a result of population growth in the years to come. Project opponents have consistently cited conservation as a satisfactory alternative to the development of this project. Across the state of Utah, elected officials and their constituents have agreed to a water conservation rate of 25% by the year 2025. Washington County has met that goal by reducing water use by 30%. The proposed LPP project includes a further 20% reduction along with securing a second reliable source to meet Washington County's growing need. The reality is that private land currently available for development will outstrip conservation efforts' ability to offset demand.

I am impressed with the efforts made to make LPP a viable and beneficial alternative for providing water to Washington County and the broader southwestern region. It appears to be a robust approach to meeting these competing demands.

I encourage the Bureau of Reclamation to complete its assessments of the proposed Lake Powell Pipeline and sign the Record of Decision approving the Southern Alternative as soon as possible. This is an important milestone on our road to a sustainable water supply in southern Utah.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael A. Chandler". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "M".

Michael A. Chandler, P.E.

Superintendent

Ash Creek Special Service District

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